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Abstract (amended)

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An apparatus for gathering, picking up and carrying loose materials such as dirt, leaves, debris, trash, hay, ice, snow and other materials or objects consists of two grasping elements which each have shafts with grasping devices or heads at one end, and a coupling which joins their shafts. The grasping elements can be commercially available rakes or shovels. Loose materials are gathered and picked up by placing one hand on the shaft of each grasping element and drawing the heads together. The coupling is flexible and can be moved along the shafts of the grasping elements to change the manner in which the elements function together. When the coupling is positioned at the end near the grasping heads, the apparatus functions in the manner of a post hole digger. When it is positioned near the middle or far end of the shafts, the apparatus functions in the manner of rake tongs or tweezers tongs.